

Home Page

Logo



URL

<http://vos.ucsb.edu/>

Subject

Humanities-Encyclopedias

Accessibility

Free

Language

English

Publisher

Voice of the Shuttle (VoS) is created by Alan Liu and a development team in the California University, Santa Barbara, English Department.

Brief History

The Voice of the Shuttle began in late 1994 as an introduction to the Web for humanists at the University of California, Santa Barbara. VoS became publicly accessible on March 21, 1995, when the Humanitas server on which it resided opened to global Web access. From its origin to October, 1999, VoS stayed at the same address on the Humanitas server. It started in that period with links to 70 web pages on humanities and humanities related resources on the Internet.

Scope and Coverage

It covers humanities disciplines and points towards the transformation of those disciplines as they interact with the sciences and social sciences like “Cultural Studies”, “Sci-Tech and Culture”, “Cyberculture”, and “Technology of Writing” etc. It also covers the disciplines like General Humanities Resources, “Postindustrial Business Theory”, “Anthropology”, “Archaeology”, “Architecture”, “Area & Regional Studies”, “Art(Modern and Contemporary)”, “Art History”, “Dance”, “Gender and Sexuality Studies”, “History”, “Legal Studies”, “Literature (in English)”, “Literatures(Other Than English)”, “Literary Theory”, “Media Studies”, “Minority Studies”, “Music”, “Philosophy”, “Photography”, “Politics & Government”, “Religious Studies”, “Science, Technology, & Culture”, “Technology of Writing”.

VoS emphasizes on both primary and secondary sources. This encyclopedia also includes some reference information of the following types like “Academe”, “Teaching Resources”, “Libraries & Museums”, “Reference”, “Journals & Zines”, “Publishers & Book Sellers”, “Listservs & Newsgroups”, “Conferences”, “Travel”, “Laws of Cool” on the above mentioned disciplines.

Kind of Information

Under various subject categories detailed information are found on a specific subject. General resources, historical developments, modern movements, domain specialists and their works, interviews, various forms of a subject, various web sites & projects, copyright and intellectual property issues, journals, listservs & newsgroups, course syllabi, departments – programmes-associations, job opportunities of related subject, conferences etc. are found under a particular subject.

Under “General Resources” category links to famous associations, web sites, portals, books, bibliographies, directories, conferences, forums, videos etc. on a specific subject are arranged which may also be found in other categories on that specific subject. E.g. under “General Philosophy Resources” one can find the following:

‘American Philosophical Association’

‘Australian Philosophy Home Page’,

‘Centre Telematic de Filosofia’

‘Chinese Philosophy Page’,

‘Contemporary Philosophy, Critical Theory and
Postmodern Thought’,


‘Contemporary Philosophy of Mind: An Annotated
Bibliography’,

‘English Server Philosophy List’.

Under “Philosophical Fields” there are following links:
‘General Resources in Philosophical fields’,
‘Aesthetics’,
‘Consciousness & Epistemology’,
‘Ethics’,
‘Logic’,
‘Metaphysics’,
‘Philosophy of Technology’.

In “Aesthetics”, there are some journals; websites related to the subject aesthetics are found.

Special Features

- ❖ It has a link to other encyclopedias and resources to give direction to its users. Its mission has been to provide a structured and briefly annotated guide to online resources.
- ❖ This encyclopedia maintains most of the original structure of the sites because this encyclopedia only directs users to the original sources of information.
- ❖ Here searching is case insensitive and finds matches or partial matches for exact strings. Word thus matches word, words, swords, and Wordsworth. Boolean searching is not yet implemented. By clicking on the “Go” option, in the right side of the search bar, one may go to the page where the hyperlinked categories and subcategories are listed. The list includes both individual links and categories of links. Click on the title of a category to open the whole category or click  to display other, nearby categories.
- ❖ On every page there is a hyperlinked “Help” option which helps the users by giving directions to navigate the site for their desired information.

Arrangement Pattern

Categories and the subcategories under categories are arranged alphabetically.

In Contents of this encyclopedia all the categories (except General Humanities Resources and Postindustrial Business Theory) are arranged alphabetically. “General Humanities Resources” is included within every subject. Like in “Archeology”, one finds “General Archeology Resources” and

under “History”, one can find “General History Resources”.

Sub categories and categories under sub categories are arranged content wise.

Under main categories, the hyperlinked list of sub categories is found in right side of the page below the “On This Page” heading. The sub categories are also divided into further sub sub categories. For example, under “History” there is a sub category like “Africa” and again under it there is “Ghana”.

Remarks

VoS has been rebuilt as a database that serves content dynamically on the Web. Users gain greater flexibility in viewing and searching, while editors are able to work more efficiently and flexibly. But in maximum cases the requested URL cannot be found.

Comparable Tools

- Meta Encyclopedia of Philosophy
(<http://www.ditext.com/encyc/frame.html>)

- Physics Encyclopedia
(<http://igorivanov.tripod.com/physics/>)

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